

National Intelligence Study Center

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CIN — An Update

by

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and
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The founding and the first year's activities of the Common Interest Network (CIN) were reported in FILS, Volume 2, number 5, October 1983, pp. 5-7. What follows is an update on Thomas Troy's report.

Professional intelligence officers have traditionally been opposed to publicizing their work — shouting their good works from the housetops. The idea of having a professional association which would bring public attention to secret work was simply not the thing to do. But Congress changed all that.

As Tom Troy wrote, "retired intelligence officers, old pros, had reacted to the near ceaseless round of accusations, investigations, revelations, and condemnations of the intelligence agencies. They had organized in defense of themselves, their careers, their craft, their agencies. At the same time, they had found natural allies — retired military, defense specialists, some academicians, public-spirited citizens — whose concern for national defense made them also supportive of a strong, effective national intelligence system."

"Out of the collaboration there came on the Washington scene, in the last decade, more than a baker's dozen of either new intelligence organizations or old organizations with a new interest in intelligence. From them came in the aggregate much talking, meeting, fund raising, and promoting of causes and projects. So much, in fact, that retired Ambassador Elbridge Durbrow of the Security and Intelligence Fund (now the Security and Intelligence Foundation) was laughingly moved to complain, 'There are too damned many people barking up the same tree. There's need for some coordination.'"

There had been some suggestion of a super-organization, to which all others could belong, which would act as a coordinating body for their efforts. Some organizations talked of combining, but as is normally the case, the question of which organization would be subsumed brought all these efforts to naught.

At the October 1981 convention of the National Military Intelligence Association (NMIA) at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C., leaders of four professional intelligence groups discussed the profession, and particularly the role of their organizations. In addition to NMIA, the National

Intelligence Study Center (NISC), Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO), and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) were represented. One thing they agreed on was that there could be no super-organization but that there should be some sort of informal coordinating effort to make sure they did all "bark in unison." A periodic luncheon meeting of organization leaders was suggested.

But nothing more happened until December 1982 when the AFIO board of directors voted to host a meeting of leaders of the several intelligence, and intelligence related, organizations. About fifteen persons accepted the invitation to a luncheon hosted by AFIO and its new president, retired Major General Richard X. Larkin, on March 28, 1983, at Fort McNair in Washington. NISC endorsed this AFIO initiative, agreeing to serve as an informal clearing-house for information and to help coordinate the scheduling of meetings of all organizations representing professional intelligence officers.

As Tom Troy reported, "enter CIN, the 'Common Interest Network,' an effort to bring these and many other people together, to discuss their common interests, cut out needless duplication and competition, and better promote the common cause. It is, in other words, a community of intelligence organizations, an unofficial intelligence community."

CIN is a network. It is not an organization. It has no charter, no list of officers, no by-laws, no regular obligations, and it does not contemplate acquiring any or developing into a distinct legal structural entity. It is only a loose, informal but regular gathering of representatives of the organizations with offices in the Washington area. Because of this looseness, Dr. Ray S. Cline, a CIN activist as well as President of the National Intelligence Study Center, commented that a "vague term" like "Common Interest Network" seemed appropriate, especially since its acronym was bound to be pronounced as in "living-in-sin." The name has come into common usage by the network.

There are fifteen groups listed at the conclusion of this article. They fall into several sub-sets. There are those who participate in CIN and those who do not. There are those who are purely intelligence related organizations and those who have an interest in intelligence. Then there are those who are social and those who are activist. Some listed here have attended CIN meetings but decided that their interests do not fit the mold.

Those who regularly participate in CIN are the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Law and National Security, the Association of Foreign Intelligence Officers, the Conflict Analysis Group (CAP), the Hale Foundation, the National Intelligence Study Center, the Naval Intelligence Professionals (NIP, our newest addition), and the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI. Accuracy in Media is also a regular participant, although not an intelligence professional organization nor one with intelligence as a specific function.

Those who occasionally participate are the American Security Council (ASC); the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA); the

Association of Former Agents of the U.S. Secret Service (AFAUSSS); the Consortium for the Study of Intelligence, also representing the National Strategy Information Center (NSIC); National Military Intelligence Association; and the Security and Intelligence Foundation.

Again, to quote Tom Troy, "if ticked off by their abbreviated titles, the member organizations make an alphabet soup...If looked at more discriminatingly, if their differences in size, composition, charter, and activities are considered, the soup turns out to be a rich minestrone."

CIN now meets once a quarter. There is no chairman, no agenda, and each luncheon is voluntarily hosted by one of the participants. There is not even the formality of a rotating host list. At meetings, notes are compared on the activities of organizations -- when they will meet, new projects, resolutions to be offered to the membership at conventions, and who will speak at meetings. Participants discuss legislation before Congress which will impact on intelligence, books and papers about intelligence, and how the press is reporting intelligence developments. While no vote is taken, from these meetings joint effort is often the result.

Tom Troy concluded his report on CIN by saying, "despite much diversity among its members, CIN hopes to achieve much unity when it comes to speaking out publicly or testifying before congressional committees on such important topics as amending the Freedom of Information Act and protecting government employees against civil damage suits arising out of the discharge of their official responsibilities. At least CIN members hope to eliminate any working at cross purposes."

"As an informal, unofficial intelligence community, CIN has no intention of being the echo of the official intelligence community or any particular agency. Whether it can become, on occasion, a loyal opposition, however, remains to be seen. In the meantime there is much time, talent, effort, and some money being spent to promote public understanding of intelligence as a first line of national defense, and CIN is getting behind it all."

May 15, 1986

INTELLIGENCE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (ABA)

Standing Committee on Law and National Security
Chairman, John Norton Moore

[redacted] STAT

Background: The Standing Committee on Law and National Security, an entity of the American Bar Association, focuses on intelligence and national security issues. The CIN representative is RADM William C. Mott, USN(Ret.)

[redacted] STAT

Membership: The Committee has 11 members, including the chairman.

Activities: The primary focus of the committee is on the impact of existing and proposed legislation on the conduct of national security and on development of the field of national security law in general.

Publications: The committee publishes a monthly eight page newsletter, *Intelligence Report*, which presents discussions of current intelligence matters before the courts and the Congress, as well as other matters of interest in the intelligence and national security fields.

AMERICAN SECURITY COUNCIL (ASC)

President, John M. Fisher

[redacted] STAT

Background: Established in 1955, ASC and now its parallel organization, the ASC Foundation (ASCF), work to improve public understanding of national defense. ASC is an advocacy organization, and the ASCF is educational.

Membership: ASC has 300,000 members nationwide. Open to anyone interested in internal and external threats to national security, and defense and foreign affairs. Annual dues are \$20.00

Activities: ASC is active in pushing pro-defense policies. Lobbies in Congress, conducts polls, provides leadership awards. Its political committee supports candidates.

Publications: ASC publishes an 8-page monthly *Washington Report*. ASCF publishes numerous studies,

brochure, a few books. Conducts seminars.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION (AFCEA)

Director, Intelligence/Special Projects
Colonel John B. Pozza, USMC (Ret)

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Background: AFCEA was officially founded in 1946 as the Army Signal Association. A non-profit professional association providing government-industry cooperation in the areas of Command, Control Communications and intelligence (C3I). Since 1979, AFCEA has become active in support of the Technical Intelligence Community.

Membership: Membership is open to all citizens of the U.S. and the Free World. AFCEA has over 29,000 individual members, 650 corporate members and 100 chapters worldwide. Individual dues are \$16.00 annually.

Activities: Under its Intelligence Program AFCEA International and individual chapters hold annual symposia for government, military and industry attendees on vital intelligence issues. Conducts Professional Development Courses.

Publications: AFCEA publishes the monthly *SIGNAL* magazine, sent to all members. Includes "Intelligence Highlights" in each issue and has one issue, usually in September, devoted to Intelligence.

ASSOCIATION OF FORMER AGENTS OF THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE (AFAUSSS)

President, John Grimes

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Background: Founded in 1969 as a national fraternal organization with the aim of assisting the Secret Service. Holds five to six meetings a year. Staff is all voluntary.

Membership: Begun with 25 members. AFAUSSS now has 572, chiefly on the Eastern seaboard. Annual dues are \$10.00. Membership is open to former Secret Service agents of good moral character.

Activities: AFAUSSS annually awards two Deitrich-Cross Scholarships to students of law enforcement; also annually grants the U.E. Bowman Award to a student at Ocean County College, NJ. Holds an annual three-day convention, usually in the

Washington, D.C. area.

Publications: Publishes *Pipeline*, a quarterly, for its members printed and illustrated, it runs 10 to 25 pages.

ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS (AFIO)

President, LtGen Eugene F. Tighe, Jr., USAF (Ret)
Executive Director, John K. Greaney

[redacted] STAT

Background: Organized in 1975 by former Intelligence officers led by David Atlee Phillips, to defend and promote a strong U.S. intelligence service as vital to national security.

Membership: AFIO, open to U.S. citizens only, has two kinds of membership: Full (former U.S. intelligence officers) and Associate (any citizen supporting AFIO's purposes). Dues are \$25.00 annually. There are 3,500 members and 21 chapters.

Activities: AFIO conducts research, provides lecture materials, speakers, a speaker's kit, and factual information on intelligence. It provides congressional committees advice on intelligence legislation. AFIO holds an annual 2-day convention and, in the Washington area, three luncheons annually.

Publications: AFIO publishes for members a quarterly, *Periscope*, 8 or more pages. Is publishing a series of monographs on intelligence; *The Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency, National Security and the First Amendment*, and *The KGB: an Instrument of Power*.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE RETIREES ASSOCIATION (CIRA)

President [redacted]

[redacted] STAT

Background: CIRA was formed, under the leadership of the late [redacted] in 1975 as a CIA retiree's organization. Camaraderie is its keynote. Its activities are social.

Membership: CIRA, with more than 2,000 members, is open to CIA retirees and other government retirees with 10 years of service in CIA. Dues are \$10.00. There are six chapters in Florida, Texas and California.

Activities: For the Washington area CIRA hosts three luncheons with guest speakers. Of the three - fall, winter, spring - the last is also the

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annual business meeting.

Publications: CIRA publishes for members its quarterly *Newsletter* - 48 pages of news, articles, speeches, letters and photographs.

CONFLICT ANALYST GROUP (CAG)

President. George H. Olmsted, Jr.

[Redacted] STAT

Background: Founded in the mid 1970's, CAG is an educational foundation working to increase public understanding of the nature of low intensity conflict (LIC) and the degree to which this form of international conflict endangers our national security. The Group maintains an extensive bibliography of current material available on matters related to low intensity conflict, including terrorism. This bibliography is available to the Group's membership and to serious researchers writing or speaking on the topic.

Membership: CAG is a membership organization open to all members of the LIC community and the interested public. Annual dues are \$50.00.

Publications: The Group publishes a periodic newsletter for its membership on topics of immediate interest in the LIC arena.

**CONSORTIUM for the STUDY of INTELLIGENCE (CSI)
and Washington Office of NSIC**

Director, Roy Godson

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Background: Founded in 1979, CSI is a group of political scientists, historians, sociologists, and international affairs specialists interested in promoting the study of intelligence. It is a project sponsored by the National Strategy Information Center.

Membership: Not a membership organization. CSI has a small staff for carrying on its work.

Activities: CSI has sponsored seven research colloquia with scholars, current and former senior intelligence officials, congressional specialists, lawyers and media personnel. CSI also has sponsored several courses on teaching about

intelligence for college teachers.

Publications: CSI has sponsored the seven volume series *Intelligence Requirements for the 1980's*, as well as resources for teaching about intelligence, and also *Bibliography on Soviet Intelligence and Security Services*.

THE HALE FOUNDATION

President, Lawrence Sulc

[REDACTED] STAT

Background: Hale was organized in 1977 by former intelligence officers reacting to assaults on CIA and other intelligence agencies. Its trustees include Sen. Alfonso D'Amato, Amb. Clare Booth Luce, MajGen. James Dozier and Amb. Richard Helms.

Membership: The foundation is a nonmemberships, publicly-supported group working for a strong intelligence system. It claims 56,170 active supporters. It has a small staff, some ad hoc contract researchers.

Activities: Hale is a registered lobbying organization. Its informational and educational adjunct The Nathan Hale Institute, publishes on intelligence subjects. It has a speakers' bureau, conducts research on, and disseminates information about, intelligence.

Publications: Publications include studies on Soviet "active measures" terrorism, U.S. counter-intelligence, intelligence history and a pro-con piece on a joint intelligence oversight committee.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE STUDY CENTER (NISC)

President, Ray S. Cline

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Background: Established in 1977, NISC labors to improve public, academic, and journalistic understanding of the role of intelligence in the American political process.

Membership: Membership, now at about 300, is open to those who support NISC objectives and programs. Annual dues are \$25.00. Advisors and directors include DCI William Casey, Paul Nitze and

Activities: former DIA director LtGEN Eugene F. Tighe. Each year since 1978 NISC has awarded financial prizes for the best writing on U.S. intelligence by an American author. The awards are for book, scholarly monographs, and journalistic reporting.

Publications: In 1985 NISC updated the Koplowitz report and published the new version under the title *Teaching Intelligence in the Mid-1980s*. In 1986 NISC will begin to prepare a second edition of the *Scholar's guide to Intelligence Literature*, first published in 1983. It will also take over editing and publishing of the *Foreign Intelligence Literary Scene (FILS)*, a bimonthly edited for four years by Thomas F. Troy.

NATIONAL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ASSOCIATION (NMIA)

President, Lt.Col. Carol Bessette, USAF(Ret)
Executive Director, Col. Charles E. Thomann, USA(Ret)

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Background: Established in 1974, NMIA seeks to enhance the craft of intelligence in the military services. It has chapters in Virginia, Massachusetts, Texas, Colorado, California and the Washington, D.C. area. Chapters are forming in Arizona, Washington State and Nevada.

Membership: Membership is largely active duty Defense Department military and civilian personnel, but retirees and others are welcome. There are now 1,400 members. Corporate memberships are available. Annual dues are graduated with a top of \$25.00.

Activities: NMIA has an annual two-day convention, usually in the Washington DC area. Chapters hold regular meetings and luncheons.

Publications: NMIA's *The American Intelligence Journal* - a quarterly offset - is in its ninth year. Includes articles and book reviews and is sent to all members. Individual copies retail at \$4.00 each.

NATIONAL STRATEGY INFORMATION CENTER (NSIC)

President, Frank R. Barnett

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(Washington office; see Consortium for the Study of

Intelligence)

Background: NSIC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit institution organized in 1962 - CIA's William J. Casey being one of its founders - to conduct educational programs in national defense. Promotes defense innovativeness in military, intelligence, and geopolitical affairs. Derives funds from foundations and individuals

Membership: NSIC is a nonmembership organization. It does have a Washington, D.C. office, consultants in Los Angeles, and representatives in Chicago, London and Paris. It employs some 200 specialists on an as-needed basis for research and writing.

Activities: NSIC publishes numerous long strategy and shorter agenda papers. It conducts post-doctoral seminars in national security on university campuses. Provides briefing sessions for business, labor, media, etc. at home and abroad.

Publications: NSIC publishes monographs and longer studies on a variety of national security related issues. Recent titles include, *Natural Resources in Soviet Foreign Policy*, and *Special Operations in US Strategy*.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE PROFESSIONALS (NIP)

President, RADM Donald (Mac) Showers USN(Ret.)
P.O. Box 9324
McLean, VA 22102-9998

Background: Established in 1985, NIP is intended to complement and offer a nautical perspective to other national intelligence associations through a cohesive organization of retired or former officers and other professionals who served in Naval Intelligence.

Membership: Membership, now about 250, is open to former Naval Intelligence professional officers, Naval Intelligence Sub-Specialists, civilian professionals, enlisted professionals, and other selected candidates. Annual dues are \$12.50

Activities: NIP is still in the formative stages and has not yet initiated activity programs. There will be local chapters and general membership meetings. Future activities will aim toward increasing knowledge, promoting training, and providing leadership to enhance Naval Intelligence.

Publications: The *NIP Newsletter* is issued three times a year.

SECURITY and INTELLIGENCE FOUNDATION

Chairman, James J. Angleton
President, Ambassador Elbridge Durbrow
Suite 500, 449 South Capitol Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20003
Tel. (202) 484 2343

Background: Established in 1977 when the Carter Administration went after the FBI on the Weathermen case. Has only a small staff.

Membership: SIF solicits members by mail. Now has about 25,000. Annual dues are \$15.00

Activities: SIF's objective is the rebuilding of both CIA and the FBI and the promotion of national security.

Publications: SIF issues a quarterly *Situation Report* - eight printed pages of news and commentary sent to members.

SOCIETY of FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS of the FBI
(Washington Chapter)

President, Charles J. Wyland
CIN Representative, W. Raymond Wannall

Background: Society organized in New York, 1938-1939 to preserve and promote in retirement years the camaraderie experienced by special agents when on active duty. D.C. chapter was established in late 1940s.

Membership: Membership is open only to former special agents. 8,000 nationally; 675-700 in Washington chapter. Membership fee is \$40.00 per year.

Activities: D.C. Chapter now working for FBI exemptions from FOIA, legal protection for agents, relaxation of Levy guidelines, rebuilding FBI's ability to conduct domestic security investigations. Holds monthly luncheons.

Publications: Issues a newsletter to members 5 to 6 times a year.

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